

Coal Production and Poverty in West Virginia



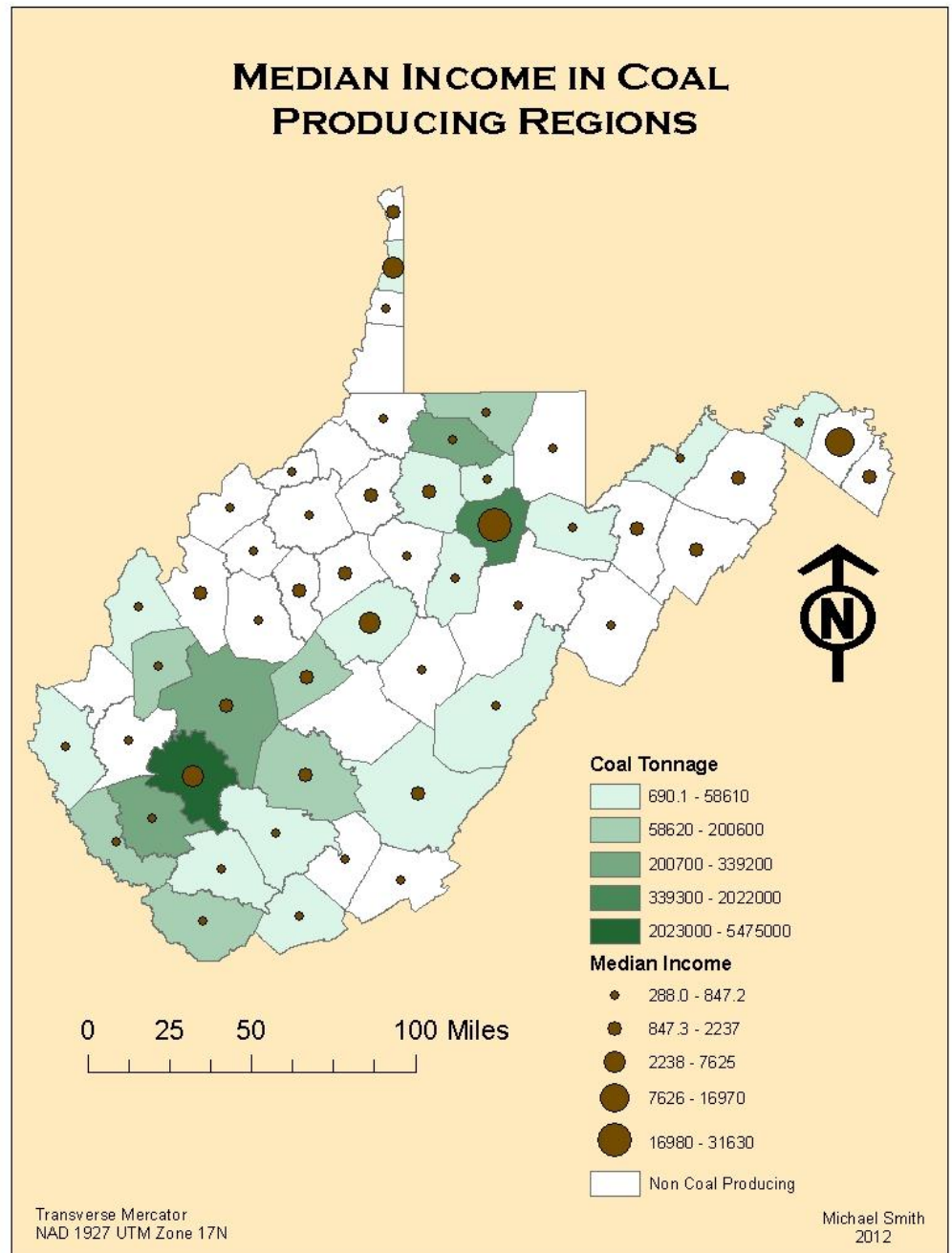
MICHAEL SMITH

Purpose



- To Identify the Spatial Distribution of
 - Coal Production by County
 - Poverty by county
 - Examine Median Income by county
- Investigate if the criteria of coal production and poverty share a correlating distribution across the state of West Virginia

Median Income



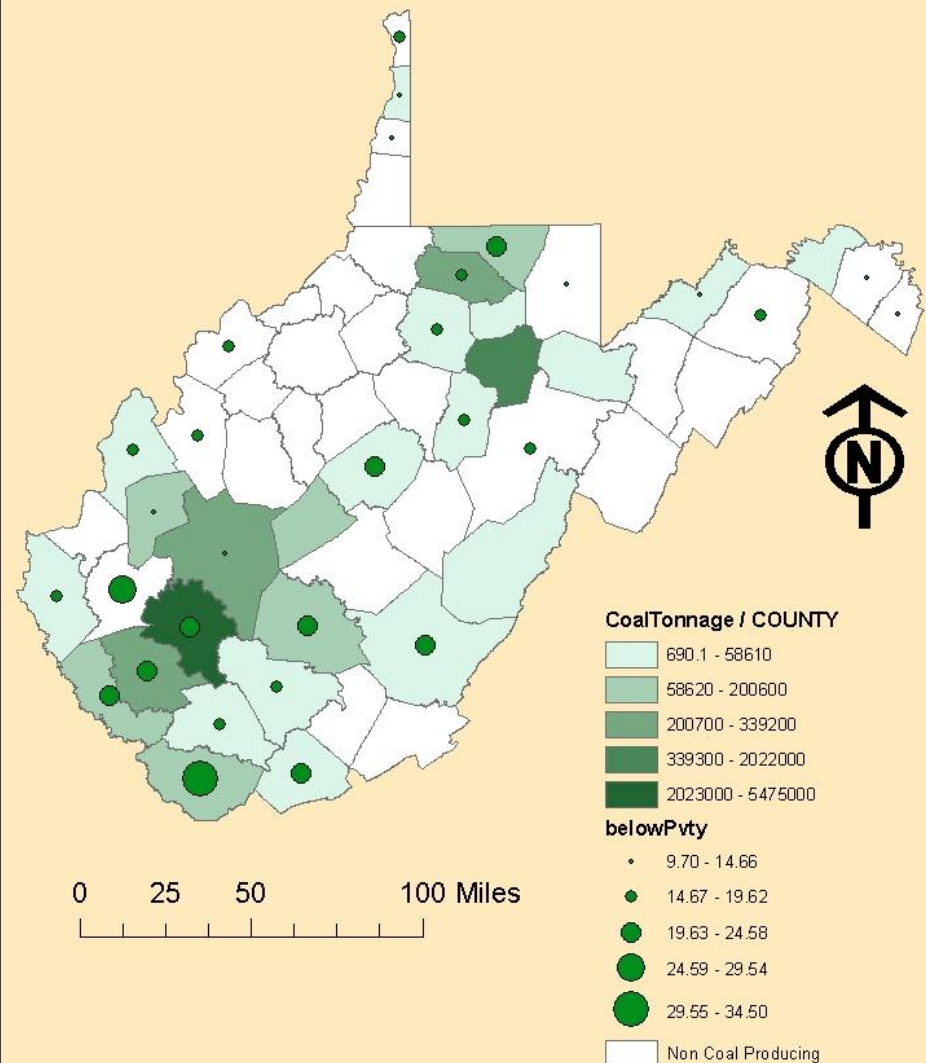
Median Income



- Lowest levels of income exist within counties that fall within the upper levels of coal production
- Counties with the highest levels of coal production have the highest median income

Poverty

POVERTY IN COAL PRODUCING REGIONS



0 25 50 100 Miles

Transverse Mercator
NAD 1927 UTM Zone 17N

Michael Smith
2012

Poverty



- Counties with coal production of any significant value had notably the greatest levels of % of poverty.
- Counties without coal production had very little or no % of poverty.

Conclusion



- In areas with coal production, a significant % of people living below the poverty level can be expected
- In areas where coal production is the highest median income can be expected to be higher
- In areas where coal production is still significant by tonnage, median income is significantly less.